

**National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC 20594**

**Brief of Accident**

**Adopted 12/04/1995**

ANC95LA089		06/28/1995		TALKEETNA, AK		Aircraft Reg No. N9825F		Time (Local): 08:00 ADT	
File No. 858									
Make/Model: CESSNA / 208						Fatal		Serious	
Engine Make/Model: P&W / PT-6-114						Crew		0	
Aircraft Damage: Substantial						Pass		0	
Number of Engines: 1								Minor/None	
Operating Certificate(s): On-demand Air Taxi								1	
Type of Flight Operation:								2	
Reg. Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation									
Last Depart. Point: Same as Accident/Incident Location						Condition of Light: Day			
Destination: Local Flight						Weather Info Src: Pilot			
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip						Basic Weather: Visual Conditions			
						Lowest Ceiling: 750 Ft. AGL, Broken			
						Visibility: 30.00 SM			
						Wind Dir/Speed: 180 / 005 Kts			
						Temperature (°C): 10			
						Obstr to Vision: None			
						Precipitation: None			
Pilot-in-Command		Age: 44				Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)						Total All Aircraft: 5618			
Airline Transport; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea						Last 90 Days: 200			
Instrument Ratings						Total Make/Model: 100			
Airplane						Total Instrument Time: 763			

THE PILOT WAS PERFORMING AERIAL SURVEY WORK AND WAS REQUIRED TO FLY STRAIGHT AND LEVEL FOR 4 MINUTES PRIOR TO REACHING THE FIRST SURVEY FIX. THE PILOT WAS MANEUVERING THE AIRPLANE CLOSE TO SOME HILLS AND HAD TO CROSS A RIDGE LINE WHILE TURNING TO GET ON COURSE. THE PILOT LOOKED AT THE RIDGE LINE, DETERMINED THE AIRPLANE WOULD CLEAR THE RIDGE AND ALL OBSTACLES, STARTED THE TURN, AND LOOKED INSIDE THE COCKPIT TO MAKE A POWER ADJUSTMENT. WHEN HE LOOKED UP AGAIN HE SAW THAT THE AIRPLANE WOULD NOT CLEAR A TALL TREE ON THE RIDGE LINE DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE AIRPLANE'S NOSE. HE TURNED THE AIRPLANE TO THE RIGHT TO AVOID THE TREE AND STRUCK SOME OTHER TREES WITH THE RIGHT WING.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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TALKEETNA, AK

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

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The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.  
THE PILOT'S INADEQUATE VISUAL LOOKOUT DURING THE TURN.